

Department of Health and Human Services

Administration For Children and Families Region IV Office of Regional Administrator

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March 7, 2008

Dear Human Services Colleague:

HHS has agreed to assist the Federal Communications Commission with a national campaign to disseminate information about the digital television transition that will start in approximately one year. An important benefit of the switch to all-digital broadcasting is that it will free up parts of the broadcast spectrum for public health and safety communications (such as police, fire departments, and rescue squads). HHS is being asked to help spread the word to those we serve, including low-income, seniors, people with disabilities, rural citizens, multilingual citizens, and minority populations.

As part of the transition, the Federal government is offering U.S. households up to two \$40 coupons to help with the cost of converter boxes, which will allow analog TVs to continue receiving broadcasts after the February 17, 2009 switch to digital broadcast-only date.

We have added a section with links to information on the switch, why the government is involved, and the coupon program. It is on the lower left portion of our home page, http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/. We would like you to consider making this information available to your clientele any way you wish, such as on your website or in your offices. The information at the links on our site can be downloaded for printing and distribution. In addition, there are a few fact sheets which are also available in limited hard copy quantities. To see these, please go to www.DTV2009.gov and click on "Our Partners." Look for the "Know Your Options" and "Coupon Program" fact sheets and the "Tri-fold-Brochure." If you would like to order some hard copies of these, please contact Cynthia Smith at Cynthia.smith@acf.hhs.gov. Additional information and materials are also available for downloading in "Our Partners."

In order to accomplish this very important transition within human services, faith and community-based organizations, we are requesting that you distribute this information along with the attachments internally to your own organization as well as externally to your community partners, stakeholders and clients. Thank you for your assistance in facilitating this very important digital television transition.

Sincerely,

Carlis V. Williams

Southeast Regional Administrator

Carlind Williams

Administration for Children and Families